Allocation norms of SCSP and TSP

4201. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is following the allocation norms of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) i.e. 16 per cent of total expenditure of every Ministry must be earmarked for Scheduled Castes and 8 per cent for Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the details therefor for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) As per Planning Commission guidelines Central Ministries/ Departments are required to identify areas/schemes for formulation of Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) in order to enhance earmarking of funds as per population percentage. As per the Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan published in June 2005, 14 Central Ministries/Departments had been earmarking funds under Special Component Plan. As on 31st of March, 2008, 20 Central Ministries/Departments have allocated funds under the Special Component Plan showing that efforts are being made to identify suitable schemes to suit the needs of the target groups. The guidelines also enjoin that the Central Ministries/Departments will be responsible for monitoring compliance with the SCSP/TSP component of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and that the Planning Commission shall monitor the progress of SCSP and TSP at the time of the half yearly and annual performance reviews of the Ministries/Departments. Specific details of such allocations made by Central Ministries/Departments year-wise are not available with the Ministry.

Functioning of RRBs

4202. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had observed in a meeting with the Chairman of all regional Rural Banks, (RRBs) that the RRBs should be run by RRB staff;

(b) what is the number of RRB-wise deputed officers with their respective cadres and amount of salary, T.A. etc. being spent by each such RRB; and

(c) how many deputed officers in the RRBs are in the year of their retirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Cash Reserve Ratio of RRBs

4203. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) being deposited by the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI);

(b) whether RBI had been paying interest on CRR exceeding 3 per cent to RRBs;

(c) what is the cost of deposit for the RRBs; and

(d) what is the financial loss of the RRBs for non-payment of interest by RBI on CRR exceeding 3 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are required to deposit in the form

of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) 7.75% of their Demand and Time Liabilities with reserve Bank of India (RBI) as on date.

(b) With effect from the fortnight beginning March 31, 2007 RBI is not paying any interest on the CRR balances.

(c) Average cost of deposits as paid by RRBs for the year 2006-07 works out to an average of 3.9% per annum.

(d) These are regulatory measures of RBI and are not assessed in terms of financial loss. Further, RBI changes CRR in terms of the Monetary Policy.

IT notice to Vodafone

4204. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private telecom service provider, Vodafone, has challenged the show cause notice issued by the Income Tax Department;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Vodafone Essar Ltd. and Vodafone International Holdings BV, Netherlands have filed Writ Petitions in Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay against the notices issued by the Income-tax Department under sections 163 and 201 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 respectively. The Income-tax Department is contesting the said Writ Petitions.

Performance based salary package in PSUs

4205. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning performance-based salary package for the employees in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) There are schemes of Performance Linked Incentive (PLI) for whole-time Directors and CMDs of Insurance Companies, Public Sector Banks and performance related payments for executives of Central Public Sector Enterprises. In respect of executives of Central Public Sector Enterprises, the Government has appointed the Second pay Revision Committee on 30th November, 2006. One of the terms of Reference of the Committee is to examine and make recommendations with respect to the general principles, financial parameters and conditions which should govern the desirability, feasibility and continuation/modification of the Productivity Linked Incentives Scheme and Performance Related Payments. The Committee will make its recommendations to the Government within a period of 18 months.

Collective wealth of rich Indians

4206. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the collective wealth of 40 richest Indians went up from 170 billion US $ in 2006 to 351 billion US $ in 2007; and

(b) what steps are being contemplated in the corporate sector to reduce the growing gap between the corporate and medium sized organizations?